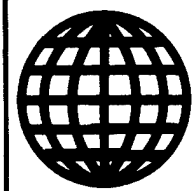


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14 AUGUST 1992



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JPRS Report

Near East & South Asia

IRAN

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Near East & South Asia

IRAN

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International Affairs

China To Help in Construction of Plants in Qeshm

92AS1311C Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
1 Jul 92 p 10

[Boldface words as published]

[Text] Tehran. 2 Tir, 23 June. Iran and China will cooperate in the area of building copper smelting factories with a capacity of 50,000 tons and cement production factories with a capacity of 700 tons on Qeshm Island.

According to a report by the Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Mines and Metals, at the end of the negotiations between [Jan Zhi An?], the deputy minister of nonmetal industries [?] of China, and Engineer Bushehri, deputy for administrative, financial, and parliamentary affairs of the Ministry of Mines and Metals, an agreement was signed concerning the building of a cement factory with the daily capacity of 700,000 tons on Qeshm Island [sentence as published]. Also, based on this agreement, the building of a production and copper smelting factory with a capacity of 500,000 tons and new projects for purifying materials, graphite electrodes, and nonferrous materials are among the other areas of cooperation between Iran and China.

Forty Percent of German Tire Companies Purchased

92AS1311D Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
1 Jul 92 p 23

[Boldface words as published]

[Text] Tehran. 4 Tir, 25 June. Iran is about to purchase 40 percent of the shares of the largest tire manufacturing company of the former East Germany.

The economic newspaper, HANDELSBLATT, wrote: The German management of the [Penuymat] Company, with two factories in Furstenwalde and Risa, which were put up for sale in 1991, will also agree to sell 10 to 20 percent of the shares of this company.

The German Government now intends to sell the remaining 40 to 50 percent, and for this purpose this government is now negotiating with several banks and tire manufacturing companies.

According to this report, Iran intends to merge the purchased German company with domestic establishments by next year in a holding company.

According to the German newspaper, Iran in fact wants the technology of this production company. In the past as well, machinery of several other factories of this company was purchased by Iranian agencies and sent to Iran.

In addition, Iran has guaranteed the purchase of one-fifth of the annual production of this company for one year at the day's price.

With the privatization of this company, 910 employees of the [Penuymat] company, which now has 1,800 employees, will be saved from the threat of unemployment.

The number of the employees of this company in 1990 was over 6,000.

The partnership of Iran is based on the value of the property and buildings of this company, which has been calculated at 80 million DM [German marks], and Iran's share of payments has been estimated between 30 million and 35 million DM.

Regional Affairs

Synthetic Fiber Plant Constructed in Tajikistan

92AS1311B Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
1 Jul 92 p 10

[Interview with Engineer Towfiqi, general manager of the Synthetic Fiber Production Company of Khorasan, by IRNA; place and date and not given; boldface words as given]

[Text] Mashhad, IRNA. 3 Tir, 24 June. Based on a protocol signed between the Ministry of Industries of the Republic of Turkmenistan and the Synthetic Fiber Production Company of Khorasan, soon 1 million synthetic fiber socks will be exported by that company to Askhabad.

Engineer Towfiqi, general manager of the Synthetic Fiber Production Company of Khorasan, in an interview with the correspondent of IRNA, made the above announcement and said: "This protocol was signed last week in Askhabad, the capital of the Republic of Turkmenistan. With the export of this number of synthetic fiber socks, \$260,000 in foreign currency will be gained by the country."

He added: "Also, with the recent signing of a protocol between the Ministry of Industries of the Republic of Tajikistan and this company in the city of Dushanbe, 50 million synthetic fiber socks at a value of 16 million rials will be exported to Tajikistan."

He said: "This company, investing 3 million rials, will build a synthetic fiber production factory with a capacity of 2,000 tons annually in the city of Dushanbe, the capital of the Republic of Tajikistan."

He explained: "In the first three months of this year, 600,000 synthetic fiber socks were produced in this country, saving about \$200,000 in foreign currency."

He continued: "Due to the attrition of industrial machinery in this unit, renovation operations on the production line of the factory have begun, and so far \$450,000 in foreign currency have been allocated for the purchase of weaving machines."

He added: "Also, this unit needs about \$20 million to purchase other equipment, and with the operation of new machinery, the production capacity of this factory

will increase from 3,000 tons to 7,000 tons annually. In this connection, the country will save about \$8 million in foreign currency."

He said in conclusion: "The synthetic fiber production factory of Khorasan is 19 years old, has 700 employees, and is affiliated with the Iranian National Industries Agency, which produces 3,000 tons of synthetic fiber and polypropylene sacks for the flour factories of the country."

Internal Affairs

Plans for Expansion of Road System Detailed

92AS1311A Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
1 Jul 92 p 10

[Interview with Engineer Sa'idikia, the minister of roads and transports, by the press; place and date not given; boldface words as published]

[Text] Tehran. 2 Tir, 23 June. Plans to develop and equip the air transport fleet, roads, and railroads; policies on improving the use of the existing resources in the national transportation system; and increases in the price of airline tickets for domestic flights were explained in a press conference by the minister of roads and transport in the presence of the deputies of various road, railroad, and planning and coordinating divisions of this ministry.

In this interview, Engineer Sa'idikia, the minister of roads and transport, said in regards to the private development of national roads: In addition to government investments, with the cooperation of nongovernment private resources, the roads of Qazvin-Zanjan, Tehran-Saveh, and Qom-Kashan are under construction and will be operational in 1373 [21 Mar 1994-20 Mar 1995] and 1374 [21 Mar 1995-20 Mar 1996], respectively [as published].

According to a report by KEYHAN correspondent, Sa'idikia referred to the development of a heavy transport fleet in the country as part of the first Five-Year Plan and said: During this period, 43,000 trucks and trailers are to be added to the heavy transport fleet.

Emphasizing the need to reform the distribution system in the country, he said: One of the problems of the goods transport system is double loading and overloading. The collection of information at terminals and the creation of warehouses in large cities will play an effective and vital role in solving this problem.

Referring to the new action concerning the establishment of truck terminals in the country, the minister of roads and transports said: In order to offer services to the truckers and other information on the cargo in cities and concentrate on and guide with regard to the transport of goods in the country, with the allocation of 12 billion rials in the budget, at the present, 12 terminals are under construction in the cities of Yazd, Tabriz, Mashhad, Tehran, Esfahan, Bandar 'Abbas, Bandar Imam, Chababhar, Bushehr, and several other cities.

In response to questions of reporters concerning the increase in the price of airline tickets, the minister of roads and transport said:

Based on the new economic policies of the government, with the implementation of fundamental programs in the construction of airports, equipping the fleet and fleet transport equipment, and providing a climate for trade in the country, the air transport fleet of the country has in fact carried out its investment expenditures. Hence, considering the increase in the cost of services in the air fleet of the country, a part of which also concerns the users of these services, naturally a part of these costs will be incurred by the passengers.

Referring to the stable price of airline tickets since 1364 [21 Mar 1985-20 Mar 1986], the increasing general income, the current expenditures in the airplane industry of the country, a part of which is in foreign currency, and also the necessity of the survival of the airplane industry in a self-supporting form, he said: In the near future, new airline ticket prices for domestic flights will be announced.

Sa'idikia, referring to the role of the railroads in the transport of cargo and passengers, said: The share of the railroads of the country in the transport of cargo is 15 percent and in the transport of passengers is at most 7 percent. In the first Five-Year Plan, the capacity of cargo transport should increase from 13 million tons to 25 million tons and in the area of passenger transport, from 7 million people to 10 million people. Last year, this figure reached 17 million tons in cargo transport and 8.2 million people in passenger transport.

In continuation, referring to the addition of 1,000 km to the national railroads in the Five-Year Plan, he said: With the completion of phase one of the Bafeq-Bandar 'Abbas line, the cargo transport capacity will reach 10 million tons, and with the completion of the second line in 1375 [21 Mar 1996-20 Mar 1997], it will reach 40 million tons.

Also, regarding new facilities for the sale of train tickets throughout Tehran, he said: Following the computerization plan, the sale of tickets in the cities of Tehran, Ahvaz, Tabriz, and Mashhad will be developed in branches, so that tickets can be sold throughout the city using the system.

Appointments to Islamic Propagation Organization

92AS1308A Tehran ABRAR in Persian 30 Jun 92 p 2

[Text] His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i, the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution, issued a decree yesterday appointing Ayatollah Jannati as chief of the Security Council of the Islamic Propagation Organization with the responsibility of making policy, and Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mohammadi-Eraqi as chief of planning and implementation.

The text of the decree from the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution is as follows:

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Sheykh Mohammad Mohammadi-Eraqi, may God prolong your life, you have now given the Islamic Propagation Organization 13 years of valuable service in propagation and education and have brought it to a new phase and a new level of organization. I consider it necessary to offer sincere thanks for the esteemed and ceaseless efforts of the esteemed and crusading scholar Ayatollah Haj Sheykh Ahmad Jannati, for the inception, continuation, and successes of that organization are due to his involvement and zeal. I appoint him to the Security Council with the responsibility of making policy, and I appoint you, who praise God have combined the qualities of knowledge and virtue with clarity of vision, awareness, and responsibility with initiative and creativity, as chief of the organization with the responsibility of planning and implementation. It is hoped that you and he will cooperate in accordance with duties, which have been described separately and approved by me, and that you will be able to make that toiling and esteemed organization more effective as demanded by its current needs.

It is incumbent upon all of the respected officials of that organization and all the Islamic propaganda insiders to give alert attention to the relentless enmity of the imperialist camp towards Islam. They must correctly recognize the imperialist tricks to distort the truth and to portray as ugly the pure face of this sacred religion, and, in a manner befitting the enemy's relentless efforts, they must gird their loins to explain the truths of Islam and to make known this religion of salvation.

Today you are faced with the enemy's extremely advanced implements and methods, extensive propaganda and limitless resources that are used with rancor against Islam and to combat Islamic awareness. You must make use of all your faith, ability, effort, and the nation's academic and propagation capacity, and you must carry out in the best way your historic responsibility, which will undoubtedly lead to God's victory and the triumph of Truth. It is clear that the seminaries, the toiling government, and the relevant organizations each have a special responsibility to help that organization. I ask Almighty God for your success and that of all insiders fulfilling this great duty.

Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i

71/4/8 [29 June 1992]

Health Ministry Officials Arrested

92AS1300J London KEYHAN in Persian 23 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] Two general directors of the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education and a group of directors and employees of that ministry, charged with embezzlement, were arrested and jailed. The director general of the Office of Medical Equipment and the director general of the Accounting Office of the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education, whose names have not been released, are in Evin Prison along with other officials of that ministry awaiting trial. In the past two years, the officials of the Office of Medical Equipment of the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education have frequently changed, and several

of them have been charged with theft and arrested. Tehran KEYHAN wrote: The Office of Medical Equipment, because of its authority to purchase hospital equipment, is the target of the attention of multinational companies, particularly their representatives in Iran.

Preparing forms, opening credit, and issuing permits for medical tools and equipment fall within the authority of the general director of this office. For this reason, officials of the medical equipment exporting companies offer the directors of this office huge bribes and always try to corrupt them.

Official Details Plan To Protect Agricultural Lands

92AS1307B Tehran ABRAR in Persian 1 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] Currently the agricultural sector has an undeniable position in the nation's economy, accounting for 18 percent of the gross national product and 30 percent of the nation's employment.

Dr. Kalantari, minister of agriculture, announced the above yesterday at a national gathering of seven-person councils in charge of assigning and revitalizing land. He said: The assignment councils are the arm of agricultural development, and if the area of land under cultivation is to be increased, this task must be accomplished by these councils.

He said: The money needed to supply water and revitalize a hectare of land is 4 million rials and \$3,000 to \$5,000 in foreign exchange, yet in this area we are also faced with limitations, and the task of development is faced with more difficulties.

Elsewhere in his talk he discussed the fact that despite the problems, in some cases crop production is ahead of the figure set in the Five-Year Plan. He said: "Last year we were faced with increased production of products such as onions and potatoes. Barley imports were stopped and there is still barley in the warehouses, which has begun to deteriorate, and wheat is being kept out in the open because of the lack of silos."

According to Kalantari, there has also been a striking increase in rice production. The wheat yield is at 1,900 kg per hectare, and in the areas where the pivotal project is being implemented, due to the cold, it has reached 4 tons, and in other irrigated areas this figure has increased to 2,800 kg.

Concerning transferring the work of the people to the people, he said: "In this regard some of the duties of the Ministry of Agriculture have been assigned to the private sector, and on the other hand in some cases steps have been taken to eliminate offices with duplicate functions."

Concerning the prevention of division of agricultural land and converting it for use in the service sector, he said: "One of the problems we are faced with is the increasing cost of agricultural land, while the value of land for production should be low."

According to Kalantari, to prevent division of agricultural land and converting it for use in the service sector, a bill was passed in the Third Majles, and [if] it is passed by the Interests Discernment Council, most of the problems in this sector will be solved, and this is purely in the interest of the agricultural sector.

The minister of agriculture noted: To alleviate the problems, we also intend to concentrate land affairs in one organization by eliminating duplicated departments in the offices, so that this national capital will be used properly.

Renovation of Agricultural Lands Planned

92AS1307C Tehran ABRAR in Persian 6 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] News Service—More than 3 million hectares of the nation's lands will be furnished and reconstructed during the Five-Year Plan by the deputy ministry of agriculture for infrastructure.

Gholamreza Hoseynifar, deputy minister of agriculture for infrastructure (water and soil) gave a press conference yesterday in which he announced the above. He said: During the same period 1 million hectares of the nation's flooded lands will be drained.

According to the deputy minister of agriculture, last year 160 hectares of these lands were drained, and the rest are about to be treated.

He said: This year more than 600,000 hectares of the nation's lands are undergoing various soil and water infrastructure operations such as draining, furnishing and reconstructing cultivated lands, construction of subsidiary networks, covering traditional rivers, small water procurement projects and pressure irrigation projects such as rainfall and drip irrigation, as well as revitalizing agricultural lands by drainage, improving cultivated lands, and other agricultural engineering projects.

Engineer Hoseynifar said: In view of the amount of credit provided in the Budget Law, this year about 200 billion rials in investments are expected. Unfortunately due to the dependence of most water and soil projects on heavy machinery and high-pressure irrigation equipment and on foreign exchange, although this year more than 3,500 pieces of heavy equipment such as bulldozers, graders, loaders and other infrastructure items need to be added to this sector, so far only about 500 units have been delivered or are being delivered.

Engineer Hoseynifar added: In the same year 90 billion rials in credits from budget notes has been allocated for investments in the water and soil sector, and this amount is being made available to farmers with minimum banking charges of two percent, no collateral and government guarantees.

The deputy minister of agriculture for infrastructure discussed the fact that so far 50 percent of the executive operations (water and soil) are being carried out by nongovernment sectors. He expressed the hope that this year the maximum amount of work will be done in this area by nongovernment sectors.

Animal Husbandry Organization To Be Dissolved

92AS1308J Tehran ABRAR in Persian 2 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] The Supreme Administrative Council has approved the dissolution of the Animal Husbandry Organization and the transfer of its responsibilities to the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade.

The Animal Husbandry Organization was dissolved on the recommendation of the National Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization in the course of reducing the number of government organizations.

Based on the measure approved yesterday by the Supreme Administrative Council, which met in a session chaired by Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, chief of the council, the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade was charged with carrying out this measure within two months and to transfer all the resources, equipment and personnel of the Animal Husbandry Organization to the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade.

Likewise, based on this measure, until the new organizations are approved, the organizational positions of the transferred administrative employees will continue to be valid.

Use of Explosives in Mining Prohibited

92AS1308I Tehran ABRAR in Persian 2 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] Economic Service—The use of explosives to mine ornamental stones was prohibited (with renewed emphasis) in an announcement from the Ministry of Mines and Metals.

The Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Mines and Metals reports that while stating the above, this ministry announced:

In cases where those carrying out exploration projects or exploitation permits with such titles as preparation and salvage regarding the extraction of ores using explosives, their authorization is voided and the perpetrators will be dealt with legally.

In these guidelines, regret was expressed concerning the receipt of reports by this ministry's general office indicating violations by some users and holders of agreements in principle to explore, involving the use of illegal methods. The guidelines emphasized that careful supervision to ensure proper mining operations, and that steps must be taken quickly to adopt a program concerning the use of these types of mines.

New Restrictions on Construction Along Caspian Sea

92AS1308E Tehran ABRAR in Persian 30 Jun 92 p 9

[Text] To deal with the damaging effects of the rising waters of the Caspian Sea, construction is prohibited at elevations lower than 23 meters below sea level.

Engineer Jahanbakhsh, deputy governor general of Gilan for development, announced the above at a meeting of

the Administrative Council of the Municipality of Astara. He divided the government's policies on flood areas into two categories.

On this basis, first are the homes that can be raised to a safe level through elevation and changes and remain in place. Concerning areas on the verge of destruction, measures will be taken to provide land, loans, and priority delivery of construction materials in order to evacuate them.

Engineer Jahanbakhsh discussed the necessity for realism and looking to the future concerning the long-term high-water and low-water cycles of the Caspian Sea. He said: This sea has a general high-water and low-water cycle every 150 years, and managers and coastal residents must never build in this zone, in view of the length of this cycle and its dangers.

The deputy governor general of Gilan for development said the reason water rises in the Caspian Sea is increased draining into it and decreased evaporation. He said: "For every centimeter of additional water level in the Caspian Sea, 3.6 cubic km of water must evaporate, and with the open of the Qoreh Baqaz gulf in Turkmenistan, every year 20 more cubic km are added to the water evaporation, which reduces the elevation by about 6 centimeters per year."

He expressed the hope: "If factors such as mountain-creating activity in the floor of the Caspian Sea, which has yet to be proven, exist, in the next 10 years the water level will drop 60 centimeters."

Engineer Jahanbakhsh discussed the future of the city of Astara. He predicted that parts of it may look like Venice, and traffic will go over water.

Centers With Larger Populations To Become Cities

92AS1258G Tehran ABRAR in Persian 27 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] Engineer Mohammad Hoseyn Taheri, governor-general of Tehran, announced that population centers with more than 10,000 people will be made into cities.

In an interview with IRNA's correspondent, Eng. Taheri announced the above and added: There are legal regulations for converting these population centers to cities under which the residents of those centers must be self-sufficient and fully prepared to build a municipality.

He named the preliminaries for declaring that a population center is a city, including having a suitable municipal building, means of transportation, the needed manpower and a way to procure their wages, and sufficient machinery and equipment. He added: Currently the municipalities are self-sufficient and no budget is allocated to them by the government.

He also announced his favorable view of converting the two population centers of Khayrabad and Baqerabad-e Varamin to municipal precincts and added: Conditions appear favorable for annexing Khayrabad to the city of Varamin as a precinct and Baqerabad to the city of Qarchek as a precinct.

Larger Villages To Become Municipalities

92AS1258F Tehran ABRAR in Persian 28 Jun 92 p 2

[Text] The Ministry of the Interior will soon issue guidelines on establishing municipalities in district centers that do not have them and villages with populations greater than 4,000.

IRNA reports that Zargar, deputy minister of the interior for development, stated the above yesterday morning at an East Azarbaijan Province seminar for mayors held in Ardebil. He added: According to these guidelines, municipalities will be established in all district centers regardless of population and in all villages with populations in excess of 4,000.

He said that this year's budget for the nation's municipalities is 700 billion rials. He said: Currently the average per capita expenditure in the nation's municipalities is 20,000 rials per year, and by the end of the first Five-Year Plan, the annual per capita expenditure in the nation's municipalities will have increased to 25,000 rials.

He added: 96 percent of the budgets of the municipalities are made up from local revenues and the remaining 4 percent, which mostly concerns public bus transportation in the cities, comes from government assistance.

He said: This year 3,000 buses are being added to the fleets of the nation's cities, and \$20 million in fire-fighting equipment will be purchased and delivered to the nation's urban firefighting units.

The deputy minister of the interior for development also said the most important responsibility of the municipalities is to take legal action against any kind of unsystematic construction in the cities. He added: When dealing with building violations, while implementing the law, the municipalities must also take into account the political and security issues in the cities.

Nonoil Products Exported to Syria, Europe, Asia *92AS1258E Tehran ABRAR in Persian 23 Jun 92 p 9*

[Text] More than 9,200 tons of apples with a total value of 1.6 billion rials were exported to Syria in the first six months of the current year [21 Mar-22 Sep 1992].

The general manager of the West Azarbaijan Office of Standards and Industrial Research, in announcing the above, added: During the same period 12,000 tons of other nonoil goods valued at 1.13 billion rials, including fruits and fresh vegetables, dried fruits, and gut for sausage skin have been exported to Europe and Asia.

Nonoil Exporters Exempt From Paying Taxes

92AS1308C Tehran ABRAR in Persian 1 Jul 92 p 9

[Text] The law exempting exporters of nonpetroleum goods and producers of handicrafts and handwoven carpets from the payment of income taxes as of the first of the month of Tir [22 Jun] has been conveyed to all of the nation's relevant executive organizations.

IRNA reports that an official from the Central Province Office of Handicraft Industries told their correspondent: "Henceforth, revenues from the export of industrial finished goods produced in the country will be 100 percent tax-exempt, and revenues from other items, goods and materials exported to reach the goals for nonoil goods will be 50 percent tax-exempt."

In the same regard he explained: "The revenues of factories producing handwoven carpets made by handicraft industries, cooperative companies, and the relevant production unions will also be tax-exempt."

In conclusion, he discussed the implementation of facilities, such as the issuance of agreements in principle, permits to produce and export licenses in all the traditional handicraft fields by the Central Office of Handicraft Industries, as well as the payment of credit instruments authorized in Note 3 of the National Budget Law in the traditional handicrafts sector. He expressed the hope that in the future we will see these industries thrive and develop as much as possible.

Paper Details Forecast Increase of Nonoil Exports

92AS1311E Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian 1 Jul 92 p 19

[Text] Based on statistics published by Customs in 1370 [21 Mar 1991-20 Mar 1992], about 2,490 tons of nonoil goods at a value of 176 billion rials have been exported, reflecting an increase of 15 percent in weight and 92 percent in value compared to national exports in 1369 [21 Mar 1990-20 Mar 1991] (2,168 tons at a value of 91.3 billion rials). Since the average value of the dollar in 1370 was about 67.37 rials, the dollar value of nonoil exports last year is estimated at \$2,612 million. In the first Five-Year Plan for development, it was projected that during 1370 the value of nonoil exports would amount to \$3,149.6 million. Hence, 83 percent of the above goal has been achieved.

Despite all the problems that Iranian exports have faced in foreign markets, the operation of the export sector in the first three years of the Five-Year Plan (1368-1370 [21 Mar 1989-20 Mar 1992]) has been very satisfactory and positive. This shows that the export policy being followed has paved the way to access to new markets and created variety in the composition of nonoil exports and moving the country out of a single-product economy. The value of nonoil exports during the first three years of the implementation of the plan was a total of \$5,000 million, which means that, compared to the quantitative goals set in the plan, about 69 percent of the above-mentioned goals were achieved. In order to show the success of the export sector, it is enough to point out that the total foreign currency gained from the export of nonoil goods in the past three years (1368-1370) was more than the total of the foreign currency revenues of 1360-1367 [21 Mar 1981-20 Mar 1989].

The most important export goods of the country in 1370 were handwoven carpets and pistachios. The value of the exports of these two items amounted to 99 billion rials (\$1,470 million), which is 56 percent of the value of the nonoil exports of last year. In 1370, the unprecedented amount of about 21,247 tons of handwoven carpets at a value of 76 billion rials (\$1,128 million) was exported mainly to the European Common Market, particularly Germany. The value of the exports of handwoven carpets in 1370 increased by more than 140 percent compared to 1369 (\$469 million).

Export of Handwoven Carpets in 1360-1370

Year	Value (million dollars)
1360	149.4
1361	67.0
1362	88.9
1363	89.8
1364	115.1
1365	356.0
1366	482.1
1367	308.8
1368	344.0
1369	469.0
1370	1,128.0

Value of Nonoil Exports in 1360-1370

Year	Amount of Exports (million dollars)	Annual Growth (percentage)
1360	339.5	-
1361	283.7	-16
1362	256.6	26
1363	361.1	1
1364	465.0	29

Value of Nonoil Exports in 1360-1370 (Continued)

Year	Amount of Exports (million dollars)	Annual Growth (percentage)
1365	915.5	97
1366	1,160.8	27
1367	1,035.8	-11
1368	1,032.0	-
1369	1,356.0	31
1370	2,612.0	92

If we compare the carpet export figures of 1360-1370, it becomes clear that the export of more than 1 billion dollars worth of carpets has been the highest level that this item has reached so far. Within the past 10 years (1360-1369), the annual average of carpet exports was \$247 million. Hence, the value of carpet exports in 1370 was about five times the annual average for carpet exports. The sustaining of such a trend is most important. Hence, the economic interests of the country require that in order to stabilize the gained markets and preserve the distinguished position of Iran in the international carpet markets, decisive steps be taken.

Since the detailed export statistics have not yet been published by the Customs, we cannot determine the share of various industrial, agricultural, and mineral sectors in the composition of exports and show the trend of their change.

The factors that caused the rapid increase of nonoil exports in 1370 and created the movement in this important sector of the national economy are briefly as follows:

1. Understanding the importance of exports by the ministries and concerned government agencies, their efforts to eliminate the existing difficulties, simplifying the export methods, and, most important, agreeing to export vast items of the industrial, agricultural, and mineral products of the country.
2. Revision in the rate of export foreign currency purchases, the elimination of strict controls that were imposed in the area of export foreign currency and its use, and flexibility in the concept of foreign currency agreements such that the exporter is able, at the time of submitting his foreign currency commitment, to take steps to cancel his agreement by purchasing foreign currency from the banking network at the floating rate.
3. Rapid action in determining the rate of export goods, determining the general rates for these goods, increasing the period of credit, and making these acceptable to the exporters.
4. Development of marketing activities of the Center for Iranian Export Development and active participation of the center in international exhibitions, organizing numerous special exhibitions in countries that can be potential buyers of Iranian exports.
5. Stopping the illegal exit of export goods, because this action is not profitable given the flexibility in obtaining

foreign currency agreements and new foreign currency policies in regards to exports.

6. Not injecting government or competitive foreign currency into industrial units in order to compel them to find foreign currency sources for their own needs themselves.

In order to develop nonoil exports as much as possible and achieve the export objectives of the first economic, social, and cultural development plan of the Islamic Republic, it is necessary to take the following steps:

A. Creation of an export guarantee fund to protect the rights of exporters with regard to noncommercial dangers and offer compensation for damages on export revenues.

B. Decrease of cargo transportation tariffs for exports and setting of acceptable rates that make the export of goods to distant markets possible.

C. More attention to the importance of advertisement in the development of goods such as carpets, dried goods, and industrial items.

D. Improvement of the quality of the packaging of export goods, the establishment of a center for research on optimal packaging for each item, and the elimination of the problems concerning the procurement or production of packaging equipment.

E. Establishment of an Iranian carpet data bank and Center for Information on Iranian Exports in order to collect and publish all information that could be effective in promoting the level of the knowledge of the exporters and their access to the new markets.

F. Revision of the export and import law and ratification of a law that will bring the procedures regarding exports to a minimum and eliminate the problems of the present law as soon as possible.

G. Granting of foreign currency and rial credits with favorable conditions given to producers of export goods and exporters.

Source: Figures on 1360-1367 of the economic report and the balance sheet of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran in those years.

The statistics of 1368-1370 have been converted with consideration for the average rate of the dollar vis-a-vis the rial.

Amount of Wheat Purchased From Farmers Increases

92AS1307A Tehran ABRAR in Persian 30 Jun 92 p 10

[Text] News Service—Based on the predictions of the Central Rural Cooperatives Organization, this year 4 million tons of wheat will be purchased from farmers. Compared to last year, this figure shows an increase of 700,000 tons.

Engineer Jabbar Saber-Khiyabani, deputy minister of agriculture and executive director of the Central Rural Cooperatives Organization, announced the above yesterday at a press conference. He said: "So far 910,000

tons of wheat have been purchased from farmers, an increase of 27,000 tons over the amount of wheat purchased by this time last year (883,000 tons)."

The acting director of the Central Rural Cooperatives Organization noted that the organization's credits this year for supplying 2,000 purchase centers throughout the country is 400 million rials. He said: This year 10 billion rials have been allocated for building warehouses, some of which will be used to complete warehouses now under construction.

He said there are 93 warehouses under construction on sites totaling 101,000 square meters with a combined capacity of 164,000 tons.

The sum of 3.2 billion rials has been allocated to build 158 new warehouses this year on sites totaling 70,000 square meters with a combined capacity of 103,000 tons.

Engineer Khiyabani said that this year's wheat with 8-percent usable dross and 5 percent nonuseable dross is 140 rials, and the price of cleaned wheat is 158 rials. Concerning the shipping of wheat, he added:

With the deregulation of trucking rates there is no problem with regard to shipping.

Engineer Khiyabani said: This year 700,000 billion rials will be required to buy 4 million tons of wheat, of which 180 billion rials has already been drawn and sent to the purchase centers.

He added that this year 911,000 tons of barley has been purchased from farmers.

Fluctuations in Price of Rice, Other Goods Detailed

92AS1308B Tehran ABRAR in Persian 1 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] A statistical study of the average price of 21 basic foodstuffs in the month of Khordad [22 May-21 Jun] showed price increases since the month of Ordibehesht [21 Apr-21 May] on some goods such as Iranian and foreign rice, plum reserves, plums, and cheese.

At the same time prices decreased for some other goods such as vegetable shortening and eggs. Likewise the average price of several other goods such as mutton, chicken, butter, foreign cheese, Tabriz split peas, chick peas, lentils, Chinese beans, red beans, powdered detergent, Iranian tea, sugar cubes and sugar, onions and potatoes did not change.

Among the goods being investigated, the average price of various types of ripe plums and plum preserves increased significantly. Some types of Iranian rice went as high as 500 rials per kg.

According to IRNA's report, the table below shows the average price of the goods investigated in the month of Khordad and their average price in the month of Ordibehesht.

At the same time, in the procurement of these prices efforts were made to choose approximately equivalent goods and average prices have been taken for the goods investigated.

Type of Goods	Average Price in Ordibehesht in Rials	Average Price in Khordad in Rials	% Increase	% Decrease
Lamb	3,200	3,200		
Chicken	1,600	1,600		
Eggs	1,800	1,700		5.5
Vegetable shortening	1,566	1,488		4.9
Iranian rice	1,350	1,600	18.51	
Thailand foreign rice	700	800	14.28	
Tabriz cheese	1,800	2,200	22.22	
Foreign cheese	2,600	3,400		
Foreign butter	3,400	3,400		
Red beans	1,000	1,050		
Chinese beans	1,050	1,050		
Lentils	600	600		
Split peas	750	750		
Sugar	750	750		
Sugar cubes	850	850		
Iranian tea	600	600		
Detergent powder	450	450		
Plum preserves	1,550	1,800	16.12	
Plums	350	450	28.57	
Onions	150	150		
Potatoes	200	200		

Plan To Combat Social Corruption, Enforce Hejab
92AS1308G Tehran ABRAR in Persian 1 Jul 92 p 9

[Text] Mashhad—ABRAR Correspondent—The project to fight bad veiling and social corruption will soon be implemented in Mashhad.

Our correspondent reports that at a meeting held for this purpose at the office of the deputy governor general of Khorasan for policy and security, ways to confront social corruption were studied. The executive responsibility of this project will be given to the police forces, and in this regard it will be the duty of the other organizations to cooperate.

Izadi, deputy governor general of the province for policy and security, said in this regard: In the city of Mashhad, unfortunately bad veiling and social corruption have a hidden face that needs attention, and the Social Corruption Commission's Modesty Project has been approved and will be implemented soon in coordination with other organizations.

Likewise at this session a Khorasan police official said concerning the implementation of this project: The struggle against social corruption will not be confined to the streets. It will also include the offices and the guilds. A number of sisters will also cooperate in this project, and decisive and legal measures will be taken against violators and those promoting social corruption.

Current Budget Not Sufficient for Education Needs

92AS1258A Tehran ABRAR in Persian 25 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] News Service—Of the Ministry of Education and Training's total budget of 156 billion tomans, 800 million tomans are allocated to the deputy ministry of training, and this figure in no way answers the need for programs to educate and train today's 16 million students in the country.

This was announced yesterday at a press conference by Mr. Hoseyn Herati, deputy minister for training.

He emphasized that the deputy minister for training's office is faced with a shortage of classroom space. He said: In view of Majles legislation, 150 classrooms are at the disposal of some organizations and have not yet been turned over to us.

He cited the failure to procure the needed manpower as another of the problems of the deputy minister for training's office. He said: Already there is only one teacher for every 250 students, and there are 28,500 teachers nationwide.

Mr. Hoseyn Herati discussed the summer vacation programs for students. He said: The problem of procuring free time for students is one of the cultural difficulties facing the Ministry of Education and Training, which must be solved.

The deputy minister for training discussed remarks made by Martyr Raja'i who said "teachers engaged in training are the soldiers of the Islamic Republic of Iran

in the schools, and they are on the battle line against the cultural invasion." In our society, free time is treated as a fringe issue, and it is necessary, to prevent the cultural invasion and social problems, that we undertake to fill the free time of students.

The Ministry of Education and Training's deputy minister for training continued by discussing this deputy ministry's summer programs this year for the nation's students. He said: This deputy ministry's national programs are in six of the nation's cultural centers and in the elementary, rahnema'i and secondary school areas, and ten percent of the country's schools are allocated cultural, art, and training programs.

According to Mr. Herati, implementation of these programs will begin as of 1 Tir [22 Jun] and will continue to the end of Mordad [22 Aug].

Mr. Herati discussed the programs concentrated in this organization. He said: The first art festival for the nation's students will begin on 12 Mordad [3 Aug] and continue for six days in 160 art groups in Tehran.

Three thousand students in elementary school, middle school, and secondary school will take part in this festival.

Likewise the seventh *Nahj ol-Balagheh* reading contest and the tenth Koran memorization and reading contest with 2,800 student participants will be held in the current month of Tir [22 Jun-22 Jul] at the Martyr Raja'i camp in Nishabur.

Among this deputy ministry's other programs, Mr. Herati mentioned the eighth camp for outstanding students in scholarship and ethics at the rahnema'i and secondary school levels, and the second olympiad for the nation's students.

He said: The eighth camp for outstanding students in scholarship and ethics at the rahnema'i and secondary school levels will be held in Tehran, and the second olympiad for the nation's students, with participation by 14,000 athletes in 1,014 teams will be held in Mashhad and Tehran.

The Iran Science and Industry University and the Lahore Technical and Engineering College in Lahore Pakistan have succeeded in exchanging professors for research activities and for scientific and technical classes and lectures.

This agreement was reached following a trip to Iran by a delegation from the Lahore Technical and Engineering College led by Professor Shahin Akhtara, on behalf of the president, and several officials from this university.

According to the agreement reached, the two universities will also accept professors from the other side for research opportunities, and they will make joint efforts to create joint courses and factories at the expert, journeyman and doctoral levels.

Tehran Security Forces Begin Round Up of Ruffians*92AS1258C Tehran ABRAR in Persian 23 Jun 92 p 3*

[Text] In implementing the project to arrest more ruffians and hoodlums, agents of the seven police precincts of Greater Tehran have arrested tens of individuals and turned them over to the judicial authorities along with their files. This project, which began on Saturday 3/31/1371 [21 Jun 1992], is proceeding with the utmost seriousness.

General 'Abdollah 'Oqba'i, commander of the Greater Tehran police, noted that this project is being carried out with the cooperation of a special unit of the revolutionary guards in the area. He asked the people to submit their complaints and reports to the police precincts and guard stations to make the "accelerated ruffian arrest project" go as well as possible.

Commander 'Oqba'i emphasized that regional commanders and precinct and base chiefs are required to make every effort to investigate public complaints about ruffians. He also asked mobilization forces to help the Greater Tehran police precinct officials more than ever to identify ruffians and implement this project.

According to this report, General 'Alireza Taheri, commander of the central Greater Tehran police district, gave an interview to ABRAR's correspondent in which he emphasized that agents have made every effort both under cover and openly to arrest ruffians. He said: Following the public complaints and reports, so far 110 people have been arrested for carrying knives, drinking alcohol and creating disturbances.

He added: Of these people, 50 with criminal records have been turned over to judicial authorities and the rest have been released with written commitments.

Commander Taheri said: The public may report incidents by calling 395591 and 2, 301575 and 3202351, so that measures may be taken immediately.

Our correspondent reports that General Hoseyn Maqrebi, commander of the eastern police region of Greater Tehran, also said: In implementing the "accelerated ruffian arrest project," 206 people have been arrested so far, 69 of whom have been turned over to the judicial authorities with their files. The rest have been released with written commitments.

According to him, most of these individuals, who were arrested following public complaints in the Sarpol-e Majidiyeh, Susan-e Ab, Park-e Fadak, Shemiran-e Now, Park-e Shaqayeq, Khak-e Sefid, Vahidiyeh and Kukakula areas, are insurgents and people with prior records.

Commander Maqrebi thanked and praised the hezbollah nation for identifying the ruffians. He emphasized: Criminals will be dealt with harshly.

He asked the people to report incidents by calling 794241 and 797171 so that the necessary measures may be taken.

According to reports received from the northern, southern, Shemiranat, and Western urban districts, the

accelerated ruffian arrest project is continuing intensely, and so far about 600 people have been arrested.

Our correspondent reports that of this number 243 have been turned over to the judicial authorities along with their files. The rest have been released with written commitments.

It is worth mentioning that the telephone numbers the public may call to give their complaints and reports to the Greater Tehran police are as follows:

Northern police district: 848309 and 840506

Central police district: 301575, 3202351, 395591 and 395592

Southern police district: 664440 and 661306

Shemiranat police district: 285011 and 285012

Shahr-e Rey police district: 598298 and 595556

Western police district: 4005030

Eastern police district: 794241 and 797171

Invalids To Receive Additional Benefits*92AS1258K Tehran ABRAR in Persian 23 Jun 92 p 9*

[Text] This year all handicapped people throughout the country who are covered by the Health Care Organization will be given health-care insurance coverage.

Dr. Mohammadi, chief of the National Health Care Organization, went to Ilam for the purpose of studying activities and meeting health-care needs. He announced the above in an interview with IRNA. He said: In this regard, a program to insure all people who are covered including homeless families, the indigent (who are one of the primary responsibilities of this organization), will also be put into effect in the year 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994] if approved and if the 10 billion rials in credits are provided by the Majles and the government.

He said: Likewise, to make the families covered self-sufficient and to procure the capital for their employment, 10 billion rials in loans have been allocated in the current year.

In addition to this, the organization intends to make its continuous monthly payments in a lump-sum payment to the families covered as employment investment to make self-sufficiency possible for them.

He emphasized that currently more than 8,000 addicts are being kept in 14 rehabilitation [centers] throughout the country. He said: To create employment for addicts who are being rehabilitated, 10 percent of the Antinarcotics Campaign budget is being given to this organization.

Dr. Mohammadi discussed the fact that more than 2 million people throughout the country are receiving support services in more than 2,200 of this organization's urban and rural support service centers. He said: This year the Health Care Organization is giving priority to helping individuals in three areas, medical, professional and social rehabilitation.

The chief of the nation's Health Care Organization discussed the fact that this organization's credits for the current year are more than 140 billion rials. He said: These credits are 70 percent higher than the amount allocated last year.

In conclusion he said: To strengthen the academic foundation of the employees in the Health Care Organization, the organization intends to raise the level of the College of Rehabilitation, Social Sciences and Health Care along with training workers, nurse's aides, and nurse's assistants.

Rice Fields Lost to Rising Caspian Waters

92AS1239G London KEYHAN in Persian 9 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] While in the previous years about 4,500 hectares of agricultural land in Bandar Pahlavi was cultivated with rice, this year only 3,800 hectares of this land has been planted with rice. The main reason for the decrease in the area of rice cultivation in Bandar Pahlavi and nearby areas has been announced as the rising of the Caspian Sea waters which, has flooded the agricultural lands.

Hail, Locusts Destroy Crops in Torbat

92AS1205D London KEYHAN in Persian 2 Jul 92 p 2

[Text] The shower of hail over 900 hectares of land cultivated with wheat, barley, and beets in Torbat Heydariyeh inflicted much damage. Simultaneously, millions of native desert and sea locusts attacked the farms around that city and, as the farmers in the region were totally taken by surprise and there was no sign of airplanes to dust with poisons, destroyed the remainder of the agricultural products.

Kermanshah Residents Celebrate Province's Name Change

92AS1308H Tehran ABRAR in Persian 4 Jul 92 p 9

[Text] Following the change of the name Bakhteran to Kermanshah, a surge of joy and delight swept over the people of this city, and most of them expressed their happiness by distributing sweets and fruit.

Various classes of people in talks with an IRNA correspondent expressed their happiness with the name change from Bakhteran to Kermanshah.

The people of Kermanshah also praised and thanked the Majles and the Council of Ministers for changing the name of Bakhteran and for taking note of the heartfelt views and opinions of the people.

A citizen of Kermanshah, also the father of two martyrs of the imposed war, expressed his happiness in an interview at the change of the name from Bakhteran to Kermanshah. He said: The word Kermanshah shows the identity, culture and history of this nation, and we must work to keep the name and prevent its change.

Safa'i, former representative of the people of Kermanshah on the Majles, welcomed the change of the name Bakhteran to Kermanshah. He said: The exalted leader must be praised, who emphasized that the people should use the ancient name of their city four years ago at Azadi Stadium of Kermanshah.

In the year 1362 [21 Mar 1983-20 Mar 1984] the Majles changed the name Kermanshah to Bakhteran on the recommendation of the province's officials.

Kermanshah Regains Its Original Name

92AS1239F London KEYHAN in Persian 9 Jul 92 p 3

[Text] Under the pressure of public opinion and upon the insistence of the people of the province of Kermanshah, the forged name of "Bakhtaran," which was chosen in 1362 [21 Mar 1983-20 Mar 1984] during the changing of the original names of cities and provinces in the country, for the province of "Kermanshah" was abolished by the Majles, and the original name of this province was restored. The name of the city of "Bakhtaran" was restored to "Kermanshah," which was chosen during the time of Reza Shah the Great. The deputy from Kermanshah in the Majles said that not even one person in the province has accepted the name "Bakhtaran," and they do not use it.

With the announcement of the decision of the Majles to restore the name of "Kermanshah," a wave of joy overtook the city, and the people celebrated the removal of the imposition by the regime of the Islamic Republic by dancing and distributing fruits and sweets in the streets.

IRNA reported from Kermanshah: "In interviews with the reporter of IRNA, various strata of the people expressed joy in changing the name Bakhtaran to Kermanshah."

This news agency added: "In an interview with our correspondent, a Kermanshah citizen, who is the father of two martyrs in the war, expressed happiness with the change of the name of Bakhtaran to Kermanshah and said: The word Kermanshah shows the identity, culture, and history of this nation, and we must try to preserve it and prevent its change."

Special Units To Be Created in Bakhtaran

92AS1258D Tehran ABRAR in Persian 25 Jun 92 p 13

[Text] Commander Rahmatollahi of the Bakhtaran Police District, gave an interview in which he discussed the activities this year by the Bakhtaran Province police.

He said: From 213 members of 16 international arms and ammunition purchase and sales networks, 326 Kalashnikov rifles, sidearms and infrared scopes and 23,908 rounds of ammunition were confiscated.

Commander Rahmatollahi said: Likewise, during this period 361 members of 18 drug-smuggling networks were arrested and from them were confiscated 170 kg of various types of narcotics. A gang was arrested that was buying antiques in this province and selling them abroad, and one [bazakuh] alone confiscated from them was appraised at 400 million rials.

He noted that in this province, thieves are identified and arrested after a short period of time. He said: During the period mentioned 147 thefts have been committed in this province. So far, with the arrest of 158 thieves, 141 stolen items have been recovered.

Commander Rahmatollahi said: To confront any kind of insecurity and insurrection, special revolutionary guard

units have been organized in the cities of Bakhtaran Province. He added: These units are prepared to deal with any kind of movement that disturbs the public tranquility.

Domestically Built Buses Begin Operations in Tehran

92AS1258I Tehran ABRAR in Persian 24 Jun 92 p 4

[Text] Economic Service—The first series of the new urban buses (355) from the Iran Vehicle Bus Building Complex were placed in service yesterday morning in a ceremony attended by Dr. Hasan Habibi, first vice president of the republic, and Dr. Nezhad Hoseynian, minister of heavy industries.

Our correspondent reports that Zaka'i, manager of the bus building factory, spoke prior to inspecting the new Iran vehicle buses. He said: The motivation for studying and building new urban buses was the age of the previous buses and the problems these buses were facing in the huge city of Tehran.

He said: The study and research on the construction of the new urban buses began in the year 1367 [21 Mar 1988-20 Mar 1989] with the cooperation of the Mercedes Benz factory, and in the second half of the year 1368 [23 Sep 1989-20 Mar 1990] the first prototype was put on display.

The manager of the bus building factory noted that as of the month of Aban 1370 [23 Oct-21 Nov 1991], testing began on the chassis production line for this bus, and the full production line gradually went into operation with the completion of construction and the installation of equipment. He said: The design and construction of this bus were also approved by Mercedes Benz.

Zaka'i said the capacity of the new Iranian-made urban buses is 105 passengers.

Our correspondent reports that Dr. Hasan Habibi, first vice president of the republic, and his companions inspected various parts of the production line of the 355 urban buses and the old Peugeot 405 buses, vanettes, and minibuses.

In an interview with correspondents at the end of his inspection, the first vice president of the republic discussed the fact that all stages of the design and construction of the new urban buses were carried out by Iran, and he expressed the hope that there will be no further problems in the bus building industry.

In conclusion, the first vice president of the republic added: In view of the current rate of bus production, it appears that we will gradually stop importing buses.

Bandar-e Anzali Mayor Appointed

92AS1220D Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 18 Jun 92 p 4

[Text] Bandar-e Anzali. IRNA correspondent. In order to introduce the new mayor of Bandar-e Anzali, a

meeting was held in the presence of the deputy governor-general of Gilan for development, the deputy of the people of Bandar-e Anzali in the Majles, the governor, the executive officials of the revolution, and a group of City Hall employees.

In this meeting, the governor and the developmental deputy governor-general of Gilan evaluated the activities of the City Hall and other problems concerning the city.

In conclusion, praising the former mayor of the city, Mr. Behnamju was introduced as the new mayor of Bandar-e Anzali.

Bandar-e Anzali Breakwaters To Be Repaired

92AS1308F Tehran ABRAR in Persian 2 Jul 92 p 17

[Text] The project to develop and repair breakwaters at Bandar-e Anzali will be implemented with more than 4 billion rials in credits.

Rahbar Sadeqi, supervisor of the Gilan Province Office of Ports and Shipping, gave an interview to an IRNA reporter in which he announced the above. While discussing the above, he announced: "All the preparations for this project have already been made."

He added: "This project includes anchoring two existing breakwaters with huge stones and bolted concrete blocks 30 meters wide along the axis of the breakwaters."

Concerning programs to develop the port, he said: "In addition to building two new docks and doubling the port's area and storage, a project is being studied to build a new breakwater in view of the rising waters of the Caspian Sea."

Rahbar Sadeqi announced that every year more than 1 million tons of various kinds of goods are unloaded and loaded at this port. He also said: In the first two or three months of the current year [21 Mar-22 Jul] 71 ships docked at Bandar-e Anzali and more than 43,000 tons of goods and 229,000 tons of petroleum products were loaded and unloaded.

Drinking Water Project Operational in Sabzevar

92AS1168B Tehran SALAM in Persian 22 Jun 92 p 15

[Text] Sabzevar—IRNA—With 6 billion rials credit, the largest drinking water province in Khorasan began operating in Sabzevar on the 'Eyd-e Ghadir holiday.

IRNA reports that at the ceremonies christening this project it was announced that the project includes 47 km of pipe and three reservoirs of one, five and 20 thousand cubic meters and eight deep wells in the Rivand Plain of the municipality of Sabzevar. Currently with four wells operational, every second 320 liters of water go into the Sabzevar drinking water network.

Through the use of this project, which began in 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986], the drinking water shortage in the 167,000-person city of Sabzevar will be corrected in the next ten years.

According to an official in the Khorasan Regional Water Office, to move 320 liters of water per second to the network of this city, 700- and 600-millimeter [laktil] and cast-iron pipes have been used.

The ceremonies christening this project were attended by the acting minister of power, the Friday imam and the governor of the municipality of Sabzevar.

Rudbar Telephone Center Begins Operations

92AS1258J Tehran ABRAR in Persian 23 Jun 92 p 9

[Text] The 2,000-number automatic telephone center in Rudbar was opened on the second anniversary of the terrifying earthquake in this area in the presence of the minister of post, telegraph and telephone.

IRNA's correspondent reports that the opening ceremonies held at the Rudbar Bala Bazaar Mosque were attended by the representative of the chief jurisconsult in Gilan, the governor-general of the province, a group of general managers, the governor, the Friday imam and a group of people from the area.

The building of the Rudbar Center for Agricultural Services was also opened in a ceremony attended by the governor and a group of officials. This building has a foundation of 800 square meters and cost 150 million rials to build. The gym and several health-care centers in Rudbar were also inspected by the minister of health care and treatment. The minister of health also visited the graves of earthquake victims and gave condolences to their families. Dr. Malekzadeh also reopened the rebuilt Gilan Medical College central staff building. This building was damaged during the Khordad 1369 earthquake and was given basic repairs at a cost of about 500 million rials.

Likewise a book and photo exhibition was opened in Manjil in observance of the earthquake's second anniversary. This exhibition, organized by the governor-general's office and the General Office of Islamic Guidance, will be open until 10 Tir [1 Jul].

An exhibition for the direct marketing of goods also opened in Manjil on Friday in a ceremony attended by the minister of industries, the minister of the interior and a group of province and local officials. The exhibit will have 160 booths on a site with 2,300 square meters of floor space.

This exhibition, which will be open to the public until 10 Tir [1 Jul], will feature various kinds of construction materials, household goods, electrical implements, clothing and shoes at reasonable prices.

In the last few days tens of housing units rebuilt by various ministries, government organizations and charity organizations were opened and given to earthquake victims.

Official on Housing, Development in Hamadan

92AS1258B Tehran ABRAR in Persian 24 Jun 92 p 9

[Text] Hamadan—ABRAR Correspondent—During the last year the banks of the province of Hamadan have refused to grant credit instruments to the housing sector, and because of the profitability of the other sectors, they do not deem it economical to invest in the housing sector.

In saying this, Engineer Naser al-'Omar, general manager of housing and urban construction, told a gathering of news correspondents: Based on this office's commitments under the first Five-Year Plan to build 20,000 housing units in the province, so far 9,800 units are being planned, have been built or are being assigned under Article 67 of the Urban Lands Law, and this is apart from the construction that has been done by other organizations involved in housing matters.

He added: The main and important problem, which has disrupted many of the activities of this office, is that by this time most of the favorable time for construction has passed, and the long and early Hamadan winter is imminent. None of the government or private-sector banks have announced their willingness to grant loans or credit facilities, and they prefer investment in other sectors and other bank commitments to make more profits.

In this regard, according to its own statements, they use the guidelines of the Supreme Council on Banks as a pretext. He continued: Correspondence and repeated contacts have been made with all the banks about solving this problem, which unfortunately have had no effect and they show no interest. Because of the increase in the cost of construction materials compared to that of previous years, the direct damage caused by the delayed construction is being transferred to the people. He added: The shortage of national and province credits is also significant, and there are credit deficits of 620 million rials in development projects, 650 million rials in educational projects, 120 million rials in the project to complete and put into service the Fatemiyeh Hospital of Hamadan, and 150 million rials in the Asadabad [emergency facility]. The total credit deficit is thus 1.54 billion rials. He asked the officials of the province to help this office in the appropriate way using the notes in the current year's budget. He said the total credits approved for this year are 10 billion rials. He added: Not counting housing construction and preparation, there are 77 projects for the year 1371 [21 Mar 1992-20 Mar 1993] in this general office, including 54 province projects under 19 programs and nine plans, and 16 national projects under seven projects and five plans, and six projects in urban construction paid from national credits, province credits and budget notes.

Elsewhere in this press conference, Eng. Naser al-Me'mari discussed the situation of the province of Hamadan in terms of its dispersed population. He said: The national population density is 30 people per square kilometer. In the province of Hamadan it is 75, and for

this reason the province of Hamadan is ranked second nationally in population density, after the province of Gilan. He added: The density of villages nationally is 2.4, and in the province of Hamadan this figure is 6.4 villages per 100 square kilometers. At the same time, our province contains 3 percent of the nation's population. He discussed the Hamadan Urban Region Project, the project for the populations of the cities of Nehavand and Tuysarkan, the project to create the three new cities of Viyand, Jukar and Shahr-e Tazeh at the Molayer, Borujerd and Nehavand highway intersection, and the project to develop villages with tourist appeal in the province, which are projects being carried out by the Hamadan Province Industry and Tourism Development Council. He said: The identification of villages of this kind has begun. So far the villages of Sarab-e Giyan in Nehavand, Ganjnameh in Hamadan and the tourist village of Laljin va 'Alisadr have been named to the ministry as desirable, and several other villages that have the necessary potential will be named later.

He named another important project in the urban construction sector, the national Western Zagros Range Project. He said: Nine provinces are included in this project, whose goal is to equalize the services in the western lands of the Zagros mountain range. Under that

project land use, population settlement, construction and land division in these provinces will be clarified.

Domestically Built Tugboat Added to Bushehr Fleet

92AS1258H Tehran ABRAR in Persian 25 Jun 92 p 13

[Text] The design and construction of a tugboat named the Jajrud has been completed by specialists of the Sadra maritime industrial company of Bushehr, and it was delivered yesterday in a ceremony to the second maritime district of Bushehr.

Engineer Salemi-Nezhad, supervisor of the Sadra maritime industrial company of Bushehr, gave an interview to IRNA's correspondent. He said: This tugboat, which has the capacity to pull 33 tons, is 33 meters long and 8.45 meters wide.

The aforementioned tugboat, which has been insured by Lloyd's of London, is equipped with three generators and advanced communications systems.

He noted that the Jajrud cost more than 250 million rials. He added: Two other advanced vessels are currently under construction. One of them will be completed in the next 15 days, and the other will go into service in the second half of the current year [23 Sep 1991-20 Mar 1992].

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